(c) whether the Government of Madras agree to this new policy ; and

(d) if so, whether they consulted the district boards of the presidency concerned before giving their opinion and if not, why not?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answers to starred question No. 15.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS.

Industries.

'Handbook of Industrial resources and facilities.'

146 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state what steps have been taken following his answer to question No. 727 given on 31st March 1925 (Volume XXIII, page 961) on the subject of 'Handbook of Industrial resources and facilities'?

A.—The handbook is not yet ready for publication

Education.

Increments to Deputy Inspectors of Schools.

147 Q.—Rao Bahadur CRUZ FERNANDEZ: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Director of Public Instruction, Madras, has recently issued a departmental circular to the effect that the annual increments of pay to such of the deputy inspectors as have not passed a second vernacular should be withheld from the current official year;

(b) whether it is the practice in the Educational Department that the officers in the cadre of deputy inspectors of schools are not generally transferred to non-language districts and if so, what is the necessity to retain any more the linguistic test which was prescribed in the olden days;

(c) whether Government are aware of the discontent prevailing among the officers in the cadre of deputy inspectors of schools on account of the issue of the above circular of the Director stopping suddenly their usual annual increments of pay;

(d) if so, what steps Government propose to take to remove such discontent among the said officers; and

(e) in view of the existing restrictions in the matter of promotion of the above officers—such as the efficiency bar and selection grade for 25 per cent—what is the necessity to impose an additional restriction, as the one contemplated in the Director's circular, in the intermediate stage and even before the officers reach the top of the ordinary grade?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) & (e) Transfers of Deputy Inspectors are ordinarily governed by linguistic cnsiderations; but as large areas in the Presidency are bi-lingual or multi-lingual it is necessary to retain the Linguistic Test so as to provide a sufficient number of officers able to conduct inspection and other work in the languages of such areas.

(*c*) & (*d*) The statement that the annual increments were suddenly stopped is incorrect. The Deputy Inspectors were given two years' time to complete the Linguistic Test.

Indian Christian teachers in the Government schools in Malabar.

148 *Q.*—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any Indian Christians, if so how many, have been appointed by Government as teachers in the Government Upper Secondary schools or High schools in the Malabar district within the last five years;

(*b*) whether any and if so how many Indian Christians have been appointed as Assistant Inspectors or Deputy Inspectors of schools in Malabar; and

(*c*) if there is a paucity of such appointments from among Indian Christians how is it to be accounted for?

A.—The information is not available.

Change of text-books in Government schools.

149 *Q.*—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether text-books of various subjects such as English, History and Geography are frequently changed in Government schools;

(*b*) whether Government have heard complaints on this score; and

(*c*) what remedies Government propose in order to give relief in this matter?

A.—(*a*) No representations to this effect have been received.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) Does not arise.

The Secondary School-Leaving Certificate examination.

150 *Q.*—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) the dates on which the Secondary School-Leaving Certificate examination was held in the years 1923, 1924 and 1925;

(*b*) when the results were published in each year;

(*c*) whether there was a date fixed previously for the publication of the results; and

(*d*) whether Government are aware of the serious inconvenience caused to the public on account of the uncertainty of the date of the publication of the results and what steps they propose in order to remedy this grievance?

A.—(*a*) The date of commencement of the Secondary School-Leaving Certificate Public Examination was—

In 1923	... ...	22nd March.
In 1924	... ...	24th ,,
In 1925	... ...	23rd ,,

[19th August 1925

(b) If the question has reference to the date of return of completed Secondary School-Leaving Certificates with the public examination marks entered therein, the certificates were despatched from the Office of the Commissioner for Government Examinations between the 12th and 15th June in these three years.

(c) No.

(d) No.

Local Boards and Municipal Councils.

Constitution of Udipi into a municipality.

151 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) why the town of Udipi has not been constituted into a municipality ;

(b) whether it is still under an administration of the Udipi taluk board ;

(c) what was the income of the Udipi taluk board in the year 1922–23, 1923–24, 1924–25, and the amount spent in each year respectively for the improvement of roads, lighting, sanitation and other amenities of life of the town of Udipi ; and

(d) when Government contemplate constituting the Udipi town into a municipality ?

A.—(a) & (d) The question of constituting Udipi a municipality is under the consideration of Government. The Government are awaiting a report from the local boards and the Collector in the matter.

(b) The answer is in the affirmative.

(c) The ordinary income of the Udipi taluk board (including Government grants) was as shown below :—

	RS.
1922–23 (actuals)	92,455
1923–24 („)	92,803
1924–25 (revised estimate)	1,02,680

Information is not available as to the amount spent in the Udipi town.

The removal of the dumping ground in Mangalore.

152 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : With reference to the answer given to question No. 382 on 5th March 1925 (XXII-792), will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to call for information and state—

(a) in view of Dr. Matthew's opinion in the last sentence of his Inspection notes printed on pages 877 and 878, Vol. XXII, what steps the municipality of Mangalore has taken or proposes to take to remove the dumping ground to a distant spot ;

(b) whether Dr. Russell, Director of Public Health, endorses the opinion of Dr. Matthew, the late Acting Director, contradictory of his own unfavourable opinion regarding the condition of the dumping ground ;

(c) whether having regard to the fact that during heavy rains for several months in the year, a factor not mentioned by Dr. Matthew, night-soil would be carried down the slopes of the hill on which the dumping ground is located, Dr. Russell's opinion still holds good; and

(d) whether Government have been approached by the municipality for an alternative piece of land in place of the S.F. No. 22 for the dumping ground, and if so, whether Government are prepared to meet the request of the municipality and with the grant of which plot?

A.—(a) In its resolution No. 10, dated 23rd December 1924, the Council has recorded its opinion that 'the present dumping ground is the best available.'

(b) & (c) There is no difference of opinion between Major Russell and Dr. Matthew, as regards the condition of the dumping ground. The questions do not therefore arise.

(d) The answer to the first part of the question is in the negative. The second part does not arise.

Holidays

Treating Ash Wednesday as a holiday.

153 *Q.*—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) on whose recommendation and under what circumstances Ash Wednesday was declared to be a Government holiday general to all Christians;

(b) whether there was within the last five years a recommendation from any Catholic ecclesiastical authorities or Catholic laity for declaring Maundy Thursday a holiday for Catholics;

(c) Maundy Thursday being a day of special sanctity for Roman Catholics, whether the Government had before them the alternative of declaring that day as a holiday in preference to Ash Wednesday; and

(d) whether Government contemplate to declare Maundy Thursday as additional holiday for Roman Catholics?

A.—(a) Ash Wednesday has been a sectional holiday general to all Christians for a very long time. In old correspondence of 1852, it is shown as one of the sectional holidays granted to Christians under the practice then prevailing. The circumstances in which the holiday was originally granted are not known.

(b), (c) & (d) Maundy Thursday is already a public holiday except for the civil courts in the mufassal.

Appointments.

Improvement of the Staff Selection Board.

154 *Q.*—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to refer to the debates of the Council in Volume XXIII, page 589 et seq. and state what steps Government have taken or are going to take to increase or improve the Staff Selection Board in order to meet the criticism as to its defects?

A.—The Government do not propose to take any steps to alter the present constitution of the Staff Selection Board.

Land Revenue.

Maintenance of a record-of-rights.

155 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : Will the hon. the Law Member, the hon. the Member for Revenue, the hon. the Home Member and the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to refer to the answers to question No. 485 given on 18th March 1925 and state in what stage the consideration of the question of maintaining a record-of-rights in connexion with lands is?

A.—It is presumed the question has reference to ryotwari areas. For the maintenance of a record-of-rights to be undertaken with any prospect of success, it is first necessary that there should be an accurate survey and a properly trained and supervised staff. Such a survey exists in most districts and will, it is hoped, shortly exist in all. Arrangements for the training and better supervision of the staff are being introduced. Next, legislation will be necessary. The lines on which such legislation should be framed so as to effect the purpose in view and be acceptable to this House require further consideration. The Government cannot now say when it will be practicable to publish any proposals.

Emigration.

Increased accommodation in steamers to emigrants to Malaya.

156 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased—

(*a*) to state what reply the Government of India have given to this Government's recommendation for increased accommodation in steamers to emigrants to Malaya (see Government Order, Law (General), dated 12th May 1925, paragraph 8) and

(*b*) to place before this House copy of the correspondence on the subject?

A.—(*a*) No reply has been received from the Government of India.

(*b*) The Government do not consider it expedient to place on the table of the House copy of the correspondence on the subject.

Jails.

Appointment of Members of the Legislative Council as ex-officio jail visitors.

157 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to refer to the debates of the Council, Volume XXIII, pages 723 and 727, and state what steps Government have taken or propose to take on my suggestions for appointments of hon. Members of this Council as ex-officio jail visitors?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the reply given by Sir Arthur Knapp on page 727, Volume XXIII, of the Proceedings of the Legislative Council. The Government do not propose to take any further action in the matter.

Congregational religious worship, etc., for prisoners.

158 *Q.*—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to reply to this Council's debates in Volume XXIII, page 733 et seq. and state what facilities are being provided for congregational religious worship and instruction of prisoners in several jails, especially of Christians (Roman Catholics and Protestants) and Muhammadans used to congregational worship and sermons?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to rules 418—425 of the Jail Manual which set out in detail the facilities provided for the religious worship and instruction of Christian prisoners. As regards non-Christian prisoners the attention of the hon. Member is invited to rule 283 of the Jail Manual. The Government have also recently issued instructions to the Inspector-General of Prisons to see that a Moulvi is appointed in each jail to impart religious instruction to Muhammadan convicts.

Civil Justice.

The first-grade Pleadership examination.

159 *Q.*—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of exemptions granted to persons for appearing for the first-grade Pleadership examination under rule 10, clause (*b*) (of the rules framed by the High Court for the qualification of practitioners in courts other than the High Court) during the last ten years, with the qualifications of those exempted;

(*b*) the number of pleaders who applied for exemption in the years 1923 and 1925 with their qualifications and to how many of them exemption was granted;

(*c*) if the answer to clause (*b*) is in the negative, the qualifications required for granting the exemptions; and

(*d*) in view of the opinion of the majority of the legal profession about a unified bar, whether Government have considered the desirability of granting the same privileges to second-grade pleaders as to first-grade pleaders?

A.—(*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) The Government have no information.
(*d*) The High Court is exclusively entitled to regulate this matter.

Action taken by the Government on the recommendations of the Civil Justice Committee.

160 *Q.*—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state what action Government have taken or contemplate to take on the recommendations of the Civil Justice Committee so far as they affect Madras Presidency?

A.—The recommendations are being examined in consultation with the High Court.

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Irrigation.

Alleged protest against the construction of Kattalai dam.

161 Q.—Mr. C. MARUTHAVANAM PILLAI: Will the hon. the Law Member and the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any protest from the mirasidars of Tanjore district against the construction of the Kattalai dam across the Cauvery in Trichinopoly district;

(*b*) whether the Government propose to further investigate the matter and if not, why not; and

(*c*) whether the Government will be pleased to place before the Council the entire correspondence on the subject or make a clear statement thereon?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) & (*c*) A special staff has been sanctioned for the investigation of the whole scheme and the investigation is going on. Detailed plans and estimates have been called for from the Superintending Engineer. In order to prevent a total failure of crops under some of the Korambu channels in the Trichinopoly district which is inevitable under the present altered conditions of the Cauvery channels, caused by last year's floods, the immediate execution of some urgent works for picking up the existing channels down to the Uyyacondan channel has been ordered.

Public Works.

Conferment of certain powers on the subordinate officers in the Department of Public Works.

162 Q.—Mr. C. MARUTHAVANAM PILLAI: Will the hon. the Law Member and the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any letter from Rao Bahadur K. S. Venkatarama Ayyar Avargal of Negapatam regarding the conferment of certain discretionary and other powers on the subordinate officers of the Department of Public Works; and

(*b*) whether the Government propose to take any action thereon and if so, what it is?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The matter has been referred to the Chief Engineer.

III

MOTION FOR THE ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE TO DISCUSS MR. COURTENAY'S REPORT ON GOOTY PUNITIVE POLICE.

[*Note.*—**An asterisk * at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member**]

* Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR: —"Sir, I beg to move—

'*that the business of the House be adjourned to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz., the question of expunging from the published records the remarks made against and the reflections cast on an hon. Member of this House in the report of Mr. Courtenay and the Government Order thereon.*'

"I move this under Rule 11 of the Madras Legislative Council Rules."